

Applicant: Archer et al.
Application Serial No.: 10/779,485
Filing Date: February 13, 2004
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Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0021] with the following amended paragraph:

[0021] As is well known in the art, outlet box 12 may include one or more access openings 26 which permit entry of electrical wires and cables (not shown) into box interior 22. The exterior surfaces of top and bottom walls 18 and 20 may include mounting flanges 28 which allow the box to be secured to a building stud or the like in ~~convention~~ conventional fashion by use of a fastener such as a nail or screw. Top and bottom walls 18 and 20 include opposed inwardly directed mounting elements 30 each having a central screw threaded aperture 32 therethrough. The mounting elements 30 permit the attachment of electrical fixtures within the interior 22 of box 12 in ~~convention~~ conventional fashion. The location of mounting elements 30 and the screw threaded aperture 32 will be described in further detail hereinbelow.

Please replace paragraph [0022] with the following amended paragraph:

[0022] Box assembly 10 further includes an externally supported frame 40 attached to one side wall 16 of box 12. Frame 40 is generally rectangular and is positioned in flush relationship with the open front face 24 of box 12. Frame 40 includes opposed upper and lower spaced apart legs 42 and 44 and a joining strut 46 extending between the distal ends of legs 42 and 44. The upper and lower legs 42 and 44 along with strut 46 and adjacent side ~~walls~~ wall 16

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of box 12 define the rectangular frame 40. The upper and lower legs 42 and 44 of frame 40 include mounting elements 48 which are inwardly directed and include screw threaded apertures 49. The mounting elements 48 and screw threaded apertures 49 permit accommodation of a face plate (not shown) which supports a communications termination device generally centrally located within frame 40.

Please replace paragraph [0023] with the following amended paragraph:

[0023] Side ~~walls~~ wall 16 further includes outwardly directed cable holding flanges 50 and 52 which extend within the interior defined by frame 40. Cable holding flanges 50 and 52 are designed to accommodate and support communications wires prior to termination to the communication terminations. Also, strut 46 supports a pair of outwardly extending tabs 55 for supporting the wallboard within which assembly 12 is positioned.

Please replace paragraph [0024] with the following amended paragraph:

[0024] The manner in which box assembly 10 support electrical termination devices as well as communication termination devices and the ability to support an appropriate cover thereover is shown in further detail in U.S. Patent No. 5,354,953, issued October 11, 1994, and entitled "Cable Holding Device", the disclosure of which is incorporated herein for all purposes. As is particularly shown in the '953 patent, the plate placed over the outlet box provides access

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to a duplex receptacle as well as a data jack. As a conventional cover is placed thereover, the center line of the duplex connector as well as the center line of the data plug must be spaced apart a fixed distance. Furthermore, with regard to the outlet box portion 12 of box assembly 10, certain distance requirements are dictated by applicable codes. These distances are shown in Figure [[7]] 5 with respect to a single gang box and in Figure [[8]] 6 with respect to a multiple gang outlet box.

Please replace paragraph [0028] with the following amended paragraph:

[0028] Referring now to Figure 6, the present invention may be practiced in a multi-gang box configuration. A multi-gang box assembly 10' includes an outlet box 12' and frame 40'. Box 12' accommodates two electrical fixtures and is defined by a pair of side walls 16a' and 16b'. As with the embodiment of Figure 5, mounting axes y_1 and y_2 are defined for mounting a pair of electrical fixtures. Frame 40' is defined by the right-hand rectangle outboard of side wall 16a'. A mounting axis y_3 is defined with frame [[40]] 40". As with the embodiment of Figure 5, side wall 16a' is located substantially equidistant between mounting axes y_1 and y_3 . In order to provide extra capacity for box 12', mounting axis y_2 is positioned so that its distance d_4 from its adjacent side wall 16b' is greater than d_2 , the distance of mounting axis y_1 from its respective side wall 16a'.